

NSC BRIEFING

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3 July 1957

**MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS**

- I. Lebanese parliamentary elections ended on 30 June with pro-Western forces holding at least 46 of the 66 seats. Malik won 10602 to 276.
- II. King Saud has instituted widespread security precautions and initiated personnel changes to strengthen his position and protect Trans-Arabian Pipeline from Egyptian-Syrian sabotage. Line is vulnerable in Syria.
- III. King Saud said last week that he has taken action to weaken Syrian leftists and "in a few days everything will become clearer."
  - A. Saud's moves not likely to effect any real change.
- IV. Meanwhile, King Hussein is also interested in promoting political change in Syria and has asked American representatives for support.
- V. Egypt and Syria are continuing clandestine efforts in Jordan.

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- B. The last British troops in Jordan will depart from Aqaba on 6 July - 10 weeks ahead of schedule.

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- VII. [ ] the three submarines recently delivered to Egypt by the Soviets are now flying the Egyptian flag and have been painted with Arabic numbers.

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